

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 08961 101919Z

43

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 048820

O 101831Z NOV 76 ZFF4

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3512

S E C R E T GENEVA 8961

NODIS

FOR SCHAUFLE FROM WISNER

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO LONDON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR RH UK

SUBJ: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: NOVEMBER 10 BRITISH CON-
SULTATIONS ON THE DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

1. IVOR RICHARD MET DURING NOVEMBER 10 WITH EACH OF
THE DELEGATIONS. AS A BASIS OF HIS CONSULTATIONS, HE
TALKED FROM A DRAFT CONSENSUS PAPER WHICH HIS DELEGATION
HAD PREPARED. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT,
THE DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ANY DLELEGATION.

2. THE DRAFT CONSENSUS PAPER IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

IN HIS SUMMING-UP OF THE POSITION WHICH THE CONFERENCE
HAS NOW REACHED THE CHAIRMAN WOULD PROPOSE TO MAKE THE
FOLLOWING POINTS:

1. WE HAVE AGREED THAT THE DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE SHALL
BE THE DATE WHEN THE NECESSARY PROCESSES HAVE BEEN
COMPLETED.

2. WE HAVE AGREED WHAT THOSE PROCESSES ARE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 08961 101919Z

3. WE HAVE AGREED THAT THE TIMING AND PACE OF THE CARRYING-OUT OF THOSE PROCESSES WILL BE ESSENTIALLY IN THE HANDS OF THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT.

4. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS PLEDGED TO WORK WITH THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT THE PROCESSES ARE COMPLETED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

5. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S JUDGMENT IS THAT THE PROCESSES MAY TAKE UP TO 15 MONTHS.

6. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL THEREFORE GRANT INDEPENDENCE NOT LATER THAN 15 MONTHS FROM THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THIS CONFERENCE.

7. THE CHAIRMAN NOTES THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS BELIEVE THAT THE PROCESSES CAN BE COMPLETED WITHIN 12 MONTHS.

8. THE CHAIRMAN PLEDGES, IN THE NAME OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, THAT IF THE PROCESSES ARE IN FACT COMPLETED IN LESS THAN 15 MONTHS, INDEPENDENCE WILL COME CORRESPONDINGLY EARLIER.

END TEXT.

3. RICHARD MET FIRST WITH SITHOLE WHO SAID THAT WHILE HE WOULD PREFER A FIXED DATE OF INDEPENDENCE, HE WOULD NOT OBSTRUCT WHATEVER OUTCOME THE BRITISH NEGOTIATE.

4. THE MEETING WITH THE MUZOREWA DELEGATION WAS LESS SATISFACTORY. GABELLAH AND CHIKERAMA, AFTER HEARING RICHARD OUT, SAID THAT THEY THOUGHT THE BRITISH COMPROMISE WAS SATISFACTORY. THE BISHOP INTERVENED AND SAID HE FELT A SPECIFIC DATE HAD TO BE SET AND REMAINED IMPERVIOUS TO ANY ARGUMENT THAT THE LOOSER FORMATION WHICH DID NOT CITE A SPECIFIC DATE WOULD BE IN EVERYONE'S ADVANTAGE. ANTHONY DUFF WILL SINE WITH GABELLAH THIS EVENING TO SEE IF THE MUZOREWA POSITION CAN BE MODIFIED.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 GENEVA 08961 101919Z

5. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, STRAINS IN THE NKOMO-MUGABE RELATIONSHIP BEGAN TO APPEAR. NKOMO OPENED BY ARGUING THAT HE WOULD PREFER THE BRITISH TURN THEIR PROPOSAL ON ITS HEAD AND ACCEPT THE NATIONALISTS' POSITION OF 12 MONTHS OR LONGER IF NECESSARY. MUGABE CUT HIM SHORT AND STRESSED HIS INTEREST IN 12 MONTHS. A LONG AND INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED AND AFTER THE

MEETING WAS CONCLUDED, THE BRITISH SENT TO NKOMO PSAUGABE A COPY OF THEIR CONSENSUS PAPER ON THE BASIS OF WHICH FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 11.

6. THE MEETING WITH THE RHODESIAN DELEGATION WENT MORE SMOOTHLY THAN THE BRITISH EXPECTED. THE RHODESIANS DID NOT REACT ADVERSELY TO THE FACT THAT THE LATEST BRITISH POSITION IS MORE FAVORABLE TO THE NATIONALISTS' PROPOSAL THAN IT IS TO THEIR 23 MONTH PROPOSAL. VAN DER BYL SAID THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE 15 MONTH TARGET AS SUCH BUT WOULD "NOT PULL THE RUG OUT" FROM UNDER THE CHAIRMAN IN ANY COMMENTS HE MADE IN PLENARY SESSION. IN COVERING THE FOURTH POINT IN THE CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY "BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS PLEDGED TO WORK WITH THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO INSURE THAT THE PROCESSES ARE COMPLETED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE", RICHARD REPHRASED THE POINT TO SAY IN EFFECT THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD NOTED "ALL PARTIES" ARE PLEDGED TO WORK WITH THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. THE RHODESIANS ACCEPTED RICHARD'S PRESENTATION WITHOUT COMMENT OR DISPUTE.

7. RICHARD PLANS TO HOLD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON NOVEMBER 11 AND HOPES TO MOVE THE MUZOREWA GROUP AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ANOTHER STEP FORWARD. HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A PLENARY SESSION ON NOVEMBER 12 AND SETTLE THE ISSUE ONCE AND FOR ALL. IT MAY BE THAT BY THE END OF TOMORROW THERE WILL NOT BE A CLEAR INDICATION OF NATIONALISTS' SENTIMENT ON THIS MATTER. THE BRITISH WILL HAVE TO DECIDE THEN WHETHER TO TAKE A CHANCE AND RUN WITH THEIR COMPROMISE IN PLENARY.

8. NOVEMBER 11 IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF UDI. THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 GENEVA 08961 101919Z

BRITISH ARE CONCERNED THAT IF SMITH USES THE OCCASION TO MAKE STATEMENTS AS UNHELPFUL AS THOSE HE MADE ON THE FRANCHISE AFTER HIS RETURN FROM GENEVA, THEIR WORK AT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE SET BACK. THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR WORRIES TO VAN DER BYL AND SQUIRES AND ARE HOPING THE DELEGATION WILL TRANSMIT THEIR VIEWS TO SALISBURY.

9. THE CONFERENCE IS NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET BUT THE BRITISH FEEL THEY ARE INCHING AHEAD. ABRAMS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, POLICIES, DOCUMENTS, AGREEMENT DRAFT, TEXT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, MEETING REPORTS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA08961
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS NEWBERG
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840178-2548, P840099-0632
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761163/aaaaccrs.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: NOVEMBER 10 BRITISH CONSULTATIONS ON THE DATE OF INDEPENDENCE
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, PFOR, UK, XA, RH, (RICHARD, IVOR)
To: STATE SS LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006